

EDITORIAL

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL RESEARCH- A LEAP FORWARD

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“Research consists of seeing what everyone else has seen, but thinking what no one else has thought.”

Albert Szent-Gyorgyi²

Medicine is a field with high academic demands and educational standards. In this demanding field, medical research has a central role for developing a level of knowledge that would aid in better understanding of biomedical phenomena and thus providing better treatment options.²

Presently, medical colleges are experiencing challenges in providing the requisite educational experiences due to lack of research and innovation particularly in South Asian region. The newly discovered facts have started to defy existing medical education making the curriculum less relevant in addressing the needs of society thus making medical research an un-negotiable necessity that every medical student needs to pursue.³ Medical research is a dynamic process that requires an honest yet vibrant expression of thoughts with the scaffold of accuracy.⁴ Research often comes with the constraints of competing pressures and thus compromising one or more of its components. These hurdles are even more obvious in undergraduate research where inadequate lucidity create lapses in the accuracy of facts mentioned in the research paper.⁵

Medical research is pivotal for medical students wanting to keep pace with ever excelling world of science. They need to be well-informed of the emerging trends and innovations in the world of medical science. Medical colleges have to inculcate the great quest for knowledge in form of medical research among the students which is prerequisite to attain the highest academic standards.⁶ Research and scientific writing by medical students are being increasingly acknowledged all over the world. Medical journals with their vision of knowledge and action, encourages all forms of research and creative work from medical students. They provide a platform for young and budding researchers from around the world and beyond who are just beginning their careers in the medical and scientific fields.⁷

Keeping in view the need to boost undergraduate medical research, Ayub Medical College, Abbottabad has launched Student Journal of Ayub Medical College SJAMC. This journal aims at providing medical students with a platform to express themselves, publish their research, create awareness regarding different medical issues and, in general, create a forum of, for and by medical students to interact and grow. We believe that enhancing exposure to academic research through the development of analytic appraisal skills in the peer review process will enrich the conventional medical curriculum. The goal of this journal is to publish research work from aspiring students who want to improve their writing and critical thinking skills, and to gain experience in the field of academic medicine and publishing. Furthermore, we are dedicated to promoting interest in future career research through recognizing the scientific accomplishments of medical students across the country.

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